TODDY SHOPS—IRINJALAKKUDA—AUCTION SALES.

141. Mr. A. L. Antony (*Irinjalakkuda*): Will the Government be pleased to answer the following:—

(*a*) why all the toddy shops of the Irinjalakkuda range sold in auction as a whole;

(*b*) have the Government auctioned each shop separately and if so, what was the total amount for all the shops;

(*c*) when auctioned as a whole, to what amount all of these shops came and is that amount greater or lesser than that of the previous year?

Mr. M. K. Raman (*Commissioner of Excise*):

(*a*) All the toddy shops of the Irinjalakkuda range were not sold enbloc; only 23 out of 41 were sold enbloc.

(*b*) All the shops were put up for auction independently. There were no bidders for 9 shops. The total of amounts offered for all other shops when auctioned independently came to Rs. 49,710.

(*c*) Only 23 shops were sold as a whole. The total amount secured for these shops is Rs. 37,300, the same as that of the previous year.

FOREIGN LIQUORS—TAX ON.

142. Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (*Jews-Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether they have made any change in collecting the gallonage tax from the sale of foreign liquors;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, what is the change made?

Mr. M. K. Raman (*Commissioner of Excise*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Till the end of 1113 the practice was to collect gallonage fee at prescribed rates on the volume of sales made in each quarter. From 1114, gallonage fee has to be prepaid by the licensees i. e., permits for import of foreign liquor will be issued only on production of the chalan for the gallonage fee due on the liquor to be imported along with the application. The hon'ble member is referred to the Notification issued on the subject (Government Notification No. 134, dated 4th Karkadagam 1113/19th July 1938, Revenue Department, published as supplement to Gazette, dated 15th Karkadagam 1113.)

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